

Restriction Requirement

Restriction to one of the following inventions has been required under 35 USC 121:

- I. Claims 5-9, drawn to a kit, classified, for example, in class 530, subclass 387.1.
- II. Claims 1-4 and 13 in part drawn to a method for diagnosis via antibodies and determining the presence of thrombospondin, classified, for example, in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- III. Claims 1-4 and 14 in part drawn to a method for diagnosis via autoantibodies against thrombospondin antibodies and determining the presence of thrombospondin, classified, for example, in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- IV. Claims 10-13 in part drawn to a process for the determination of dementia via an antibody and determinable group separated off, classified, for example, in class 435, subclass 6.
- V. Claims 10-12 and 14 in part drawn to a process for the determination of dementia via an autoantibody against thrombospondin antibodies and determinable group separated off, classified, for example, in class 435, subclass 6.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Election

Applicants herein elect, without traverse, Group II (claims 1-4, and 13 in part drawn to a method for diagnosis via antibodies and determining the presence of thrombospondin) for prosecution on the merits.

Claim Status/Support for Amendments

Claims 1-4 have been amended. Claims 13 and 14 have been cancelled. Claims 5-12 have been withdrawn. It is understood that claims 5-12, drawn to the non-elected invention(s), will remain pending, albeit withdrawn from prosecution on the merits at this time. Claims 1-12 remain pending in the instant application.

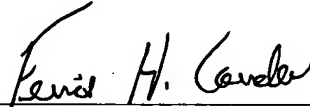
No new matter has been added by the amendments to the claims made herein.

Claim 1 was amended to clearly delineate the steps of the claimed method and to indicate that the method enables a diagnosis of dementia. Claims 2-4 were amended to provide consistency of language. Claim 4 was also amended to provide antecedent basis to the steps of claim 1.

CONCLUSION

Now that Applicants have fully responded to the Office Action mailed on November 4, 2003, an examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Ferris H. Lander
Registration # 43,377

McHale & Slavin, P.A.
2855 PGA Boulevard
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
(561) 625-6575 (Voice)
(561) 625-6572 (Fax)

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